Country	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Venezuela	17.80	21.73	17.70	17.10	NA	NA
Zimbabwe	6.76	9.74	12.81	9.87	14.57	15.49
India @	23.28	22.89	22.83	21.80	21.41	21.13

Note/Source:
1. Energy Balances and Electricity Profiles—UN publication
2. General review published by CEAS
3. N.A.—Data Not Available/Not Applicable
4. @ For Financial Years

Bids for supply of LNG to NTPC projects

2525. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has decided to invite bids for supply of five million tones of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) annually for its gas-based projects, as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 8th November, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for PSE's decision to drop the move for a Joint Venture with Petronet, LNG;

(d) whether NTPC would be discussing the Power Purchase Agreement with the beneficiary States after finalisation of its fuel supply agreement/bidding process; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) NTPC is considering to source liquefied natural gas (LNG) for its expansion gas projects at Anta, Auraiya, Kawas, Gandhar and Kayamkulam through international competitive bidding (ICB) procedure.

(c) NTPC is of the opinion that in a competitive environment, ICB route is likely to entail favourable gas prices when compared to joint venture route.

(d) and (e) On account of sharp increase in international prices of LNG resulting in increased cost of power, NTPC (in October/ November, 2000) had sought reconfirmation from beneficiaries for

availing power from its gas based expansion projects on expected cost of generation on LNG. A number of beneficiaries have expressed their unwillingness to purchase power due to high cost of generation as a consequence of increase in LNG price. However, on confirmation of availability of LNG at reasonable and long term/firm price basis, NTPC would again take up with beneficiaries for their acceptance to absorb power from these projects.

Pending proposals for setting up power plants in NER

2526. SHRI C. APOK JAMIR: Will the Minister POWER of be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals pending with the Central Government for sanction and clearance for setting up of power plants in NE States:

(b) if so, at what stages those projects have been pending project-wise; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to expedite the clearance of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The Tripura Gas Thermal Power Project was received in Central Electricity Authority on 31.08.2000 and was considered in the meeting of Standing Projects Appraisal Committee on 29.08.2001. Techno-economic Clearance to the proejct requires tie up of certain inputs such as environmental and forest clearance, Power Apsorption etc.

Tripping off of two units of NTPC at Ramagundam

2527. SHRI P.N. SIVA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether two units NTPC at Ramagundam tripped off on October 17, 2001;

(b) if so, the reasons for the failure; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to avoid such incidents in future?